

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /062 W

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R 210900 Z MAR 73

FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1665

U. S. MISSION BERLIN 259

AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

USAREUR HEIDELBERG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STUTTGART 0198

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, GW

SUB: LEBER VISIT TO USAREUR, HEIDELBERG GERMAN DEFENSE DISTRICT

USAREUR FOR POLAD

1. (WEHRBEREICH V) COMMANDING GENERAL VON SENGER UND
ETTERLIN, WHOSE HEADQUARTERS IS IN STUTTGART, TOLD CONGEN
OFFICER MAR 20 THAT DEFMIN LEBER WAS VERY PLEASED WITH
MAR 19 VISIT AND MEDIA COVERAGE OF IT. IN LIGHT OF UNBALANCED
AMERICAN MEDIA REPORTING OF RECENT ANTI- AMERICAN
UTTERANCES IN FRG AND TENDENCY OF BOTH GERMAN AND
AMERICAN MEDIA TO ACCENT THE NEGATIVE, THIS VISIT WAS
DEMONSTRATION BY BOTH GERMAN AND AMERICAN AUTHORITIES
OF THE VALUE PLACED ON U. S. PRESENCE.

2. ALL LEADING PROVINCIAL PAPERS GAVE VERY PROMINENT PLAY
TO STORY AND PICTURES OF LEBER AND USAREUR COMMANDER
GENERAL MICHAEL DAVISION TOGETHER. THIS UNUSUAL EMPHASIS
IN OUR VIEW, RELATES IN PART TO SENIOR GERMAN EDITOR' S
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DESIRES TO HELP GET BETTER BALANCE IN REPORTING ON GERMAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS, NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF CRITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF JUSO UTTERANCES ABOUT U. S. TROOP PRESENCE AND COSTS.

3. COMMENT; CLEAR EFFORT BEING MADE BY GERMANS, LOCALLY. IN OTHER WAYS TO REDRESS REVERBERATIONS ANTI- AMERICANISM AS WELL. TWO IMMEDIATE EXAMPLES: GERMANS ARE MAKING EVEN GREATER EFFORT THAN USUAL TO MAKE ANNUAL GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP WEEK (MAY 6-12) A SUCCESS. IN HIS CALL ON MIN PRES DR. HANS FILBINGER (CDU) TODAY, NEW VII CORPS COMMANDER LT. GENERAL GEORGE BLANCHARD WAS NOT ONLY WARMLY RECEIVED, BUT TALK FOCUSED ON WAYS TO IMPROVE GERMAN- AMERICAN RELATIONS AND ASSISTANCE GERMANS COULD OFFER. RUCHTI

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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